

Oct '80

YPSILANTI GLEANINGS

PAST SCENES and OLD TIMES

YPSILANTI HISTORICAL SOCIETY ~ PUBLICATION ~



Ypsilanti Historical Museum
~ 220 N. Huron Street ~

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

YPSILANTI HISTORICAL SOCIETY
THIRD ANNUAL DINNER
OCTOBER 26th (Sunday)
TIME - 5 O'CLOCK
MASONIC TEMPLE - 76 N. HURON
(Parking in City Lot- N.Huron St.)

MR. THOMAS L. JONES - OUR DINNER SPEAKER - IS THE NEW EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE MICHIGAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY - FORMERLY PUBLIC INFORMATION DIRECTOR FOR THE DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM.

TOM, HIS WIFE WINIFRED, AND THEIR TWO DAUGHTERS LIVE AT 512 FAIRVIEW CIRCLE, YPSILANTI. TOM HAS SAID THAT HE IS ANXIOUS TO VISIT THE LOCAL MUSEUMS OF MICHIGAN. HE AND HIS FAMILY TOURED OUR MUSEUM DURING 'FESTIVAL DAYS' - NOW HE WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY OF MEETING THE MEMBERS OF OUR SOCIETY - AND YOU HIM!

TICKETS \$5.00 ADULT \$2.50 CHILDREN
WE HAVE NOTIFIED THE LADIES OF THE EASTERN STAR, WHO HAVE THE REPUTATION OF PREPARING DELICIOUS MEALS, TO PREPARE DINNER FOR 200 PEOPLE. THERE WILL BE NO TICKETS SOLD AT THE DOOR. TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED PRIOR TO THE DINNER. WE MUST HAVE OUR FINAL COUNT OF DINNER GUESTS TURNED IN NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 20TH.

LET US WELCOME TOM JONES BY HAVING A FULL HOUSE ON
OCTOBER 26th

TO: YPSILANTI HISTORICAL SOCIETY 220 N. Huron (482-4990)
I WISH TO RESERVE _____ (ADULT) _____ (CHILDREN) TICKETS
FOR THE THIRD ANNUAL YPSILANTI HISTORICAL SOCIETY DINNER
AT THE MASONIC TEMPLE ON OCTOBER 26TH. (cash/check enclosed)

October 1980

"YPSILANTI GLEANINGS"

Charles Fleming, son of James and Martha Wade Fleming, was born October 30th 1816 near Romulus, New York.

He came to the Ypsilanti area with his parents May 17th 1827, living near Rawsonville, later moving to Ypsilanti in 1854 and living at 514 Emmet Street. He served three terms as City Alderman.

Here is his interesting reminiscences written in 1907:

REMINISCENCES OF CHARLES FLEMING -

In 1827 my father arrived in Detroit on his way west of Detroit to make a home. After storing part of our goods father found a team to take the balance and the family to Woodruff's Grove. There we were met by Archie McNath with an ox-team and taken to Aunt Polly McNath's home, on the bank of the Willow Run, about four miles east of Ypsilanti; and that night the wolves made the most hideous noise I ever heard by their howling. It seems the woods were full of them. The next morning we were up early, and I saw such a sight as I had never seen before. The air was fairly alive with pigeons as far as we could see every direction, all flying to the north and many of them flying so low that the boys with long whips could bring them to the ground. At dinner that day we had a delicious potpie, large enough for all, though there were twenty of us altogether. Father soon selected an 80-acre lot and went to Detroit to purchase it. It was about half a mile northwest of Aunt Polly's and about three and a half miles each of Ypsilanti. It lay on both sides of the Willow Run, and was so cut up by that stream as to make it very undesirable for a farm. After selecting his lot father returned to Detroit with an ox team to purchase it, and also a yoke of oxen and two cows, and to bring another load of goods. He could not bring it all, so he shipped the balance on a flat boat and there were brought up the Huron river to Rawsonville. The roads at that time were so bad that it took a week to make a trip to Detroit for a load of goods, and even then a teamster would not think of going without an axe and an extra log chain, so as to cut pieces, for lifting the wagons out of the mud, doubling teams to pull them out.

I will give here one instance as a sample. My father was going to Detroit for a load of merchandise and let me go with him, and as we were returning night came on when we were about a mile from the tavern where we expected to stay overnight. The road was so muddy that the tired horses could not draw the load any farther, so we were obliged to unhitch and leave the wagon in the mud, and be-

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fore we got to the tavern we passed two other wagons in the same condition. As we approached the tavern we heard the shout, "There comes another; misery loves company". The men spent a jolly night together and in the morning, with teams rested, they started back for the wagons, ours being the farthest back; they all went with father to his wagon, hitched their horses ahead of ours and helped us on to better roads. Then father returned with them to their wagons and in this way all were able to proceed on their journey. This is a fair sample of the way transportation was carried on between here and Detroit for several years after we came to this county.

At first all our groceries and provisions excepting wild game and fish had to be bought in Detroit and there were times when we could scarcely get anything to eat. I remember seeing my mother taking ashes from the fire, making a strong lye and scalding corn in it to take the hulls off and boiling it soft, so we had to live on corn meal and potatoes. We were not alone in this condition. I remember at one time the mill dam was washed away and before it could be repaired every family in the neighborhood but one were entirely out of flour. There was scarcely any fruit to be had. We did find a few whortleberries, strawberries, wild plums and cranberries, but sugar was so scarce that sometimes it was necessary to use a little soda to neutralize the acid in the fruit. Canned fruit was not known at that time. All the fruit that was to be kept had to be dried. Pumpkins were used a good deal. They were cut in long strips and hung on poles before the kitchen fire. There were no cook stoves then, bread, cakes and pies being baked in a brick oven built outdoors, usually large enough to hold a dozen pans for baking. The oven was first heated with fine wood to what was supposed to be the proper heat, then the coals and ashes were scraped out and the bread was put to bake. Another way of baking was by the use of a bake bottle. This was of cast iron about five inches deep and fifteen inches in diameter, with sides nearly perpendicular, with legs two and a half inches long and the bottom perfectly flat, and a flat cover with a rim all around about one and a half inches high. This was placed over the live coals on the hearth and live coals on the cover. Then the thing was ready for business. This vessel was found quite useful for other purposes in cooking.

There was a great deal of sickness, many times not a well one in the family to take care of the sick, and only one doctor that we knew of. The sickness was mostly fevers and argue. There were a good many deaths, but not such a conveyance as a hearse was known. I remember one of our neighbors was sick and thought he was going to die, sent for my father and asked him if he would take his horse and carry

his body to the grave, as he did not want to be drawn there by oxen.

It is utterly impossible for me to describe the trials, privations, anxieties, toils and suffering of the pioneers; but amid all this there was one thing that was really comforting: The citizens were all neighbors and friends; no one dared to be otherwise, for everyone was dependent on his neighbors, and when a stranger came he was sure of a hearty welcome. I will undertake to mention some things that were not to be had at that time by anyone no matter how much money they had, and which we think we could not possibly do without. There was not a match to light fire; no cook stoves, no carpets, no silver knives, forks or spoons, no kerosene lamps, no gas or electric lights, no envelopes, no refrigerators, sewing machines, spring beds, canned fruit, rubber shoes, baking powder, baby cabs, postage stamps, wall paper, photographs, telegram, telephone or railroads in the United States until 1826. The Erie Canal, New York, opened in 1825...

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A remarkable man was Charles Fleming. On January 16 1907, the Flemings celebrated their 67th wedding anniversary. He died in April of that year. Charles' wife, Jane Shuart, (11-9-1823/ 8/31/1908) came from New York and they were married January 16 1840 in Van Buren Township, Wayne County. On his 85th birthday he mounted his bicycle and went to call on some of his friends in the city who were more than 80 years old. He called on the following:

Erastus Samson, Dec.22 1819	John Boyce, Oct. 26, 1816
C.B. Earl, Aug. 15, 1815	Chas.Woodward, Oct.22, 1921
James P.Dickenson, Mar.14, 1819	Philo Fowler, Dec 17, 1820
John Voorhees, Aug.2, 1823	B.E.Varnum, Dec.23, 1821
Jas. M.Chidister, Oct.10, 1821	D.L.Quirk, June 15 1818
Mrs.Wm.Wortley, Feb 14, 1816	W.B.Clark, Feb.19 1814
H.B.Lee, Aug 14, 1816	Thos.Busby, Nov.18, 1822
Mrs.Ann Bassett, Jan2, 1823	H.C.Dole, Aug 9 1829
C.W.Walterhouse, Sept.29, 1816	Mrs.VanHorn, Feb.22 1820

Charles Fleming died at his Emmett Street home in April 1907. His wife survived until August 1908.

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Our member Mrs. H.T. (Peggy) Augustus sent us an interesting news clipping from the "News-Press" of Santa-Barbara, California, about Fred J. Bergin.

Fred was born in Ypsilanti and showed a musical talent at an early age. His first piano teacher was his sister, Carrie, who will be remembered as Carrie Bergin Chadwick, Manager for several years of the local Grinnell Bros. Music store here in Ypsilanti.

We quote from the "News-Press" - -

Fred J. Bergin, the pianist and orchestra leader who never forgets a tune but has trouble with telephone numbers, went into retirement last night at Coral Casino party surrounded by scores of friends.

The friendly, 76-year-old musician, a native of Ypsilanti, Mich. started early as a musician, and when he went to the University of Michigan he started his own campus orchestra.

He left college to join the Jean Goldkette orchestra in Detroit in 1925, playing with Jimmy and Tommy Dorsey (the "fighting brothers"), Bix Beiderbecke, Russ Morgan, Joe Venuti and others. Then he formed his own band for Columbia Broadcasting System, playing Meadowbrook, the Book Cadillac, the Steel Pier and other night spots. Then Bergin gave up the band business to go, in turn, into three other businesses. He operated roller skating rinks in Cleveland, Dayton and Medford, becoming president of the Rolling Skating Rink Operators. He became owner of the Fresno Ice Arena, serving as president of the Pacific Coast Hockey League and president of the National Ice Skating Association.

"Then I became interested in recording and joined Dr. Lloyd Shaw at Colorado Springs, Colo., making recordings for square dancing", he recalls, "and became owner of the Rinx Record Co. producing records for ice and roller skating".

At other times he was associated in business with E.L.Cord, the car builder, Shipstead and Johnson ice showmen, and the Music Corporation of America.

In 1960 Bergin and his wife, Doris, moved here and he became associated with I. Newton Perry in the orchestra and real estate business. Perry booked the diminutive Bergin and his orchestra into the Coral Casino, and he has been musical director there ever since. He also served as

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Montecito Rotary Club President and is a Harris Fellow.

Fred Bergin is giving up his professional appearances, but not the piano and organ, playing for fun. He and Doris will see more of their children and grandchildren, taking an occasional ocean cruise and working around their yard at their home on the Mesa.

"I'll probably keep my hand in the piano, but there will no longer be any regular schedule," promises Fred Bergin. "Once in a while I may write some more music, too".

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AN OLD AND INTERESTING LETTER -

Our Historical Society member, Mary Campbell gave us a copy of this letter written by David Gairdner (sic.) in 1837 to Robert Campbell in Scotland. David lived in Augusta Twp. on Bemis Road.

Ypsilanti April 8th 1837

Dear Sir:

I take the opportunity of sending you by James Pearson a few lines to let you know we are all in good health at present thank God for it and we fondly hope this will find you and yours in the same state. I hope you will excuse my long delay in writing to you for though six years have passed is nearly run since we parted it seems to me but yesterday.

There is a great difference in this countryside since I came to it. The woods is fast disappearing and improvements making rapid strides. Eighteen years ago where the town of Ypsilanti now stands nothing was to be heard but the war whoop of the Indians.

Now there is stores and groceries everywhere that luxury or fashion could think of. And flouring mills from which hundreds of barrels of flour is exported every year. And there is a railroad in progress now from this to Detroit which is expected to be opened this Fall.

Last summer was very wet and cold. Crops of all kinds was very deficient and we have had a long severe winter. I have got nothing done yet on the farm as the fields is covered with water but I hope in a few days it will go off. This will be a hard summer on poor emigrants coming into this country as provisions of every kind is at a very high price. Wheat is one dollar 74 cents per bushel, corn one dollar 12 cents per bushel. Salt port eighteen cents per pound.

Butter twenty-five cents per pound, eggs 16 cents a dozen and other things in proportion. There's no chance of a man of small propensity doing much good in this neighborhood now land is got to such a high price. They are asking twelve hundred dollars for wild lots around this place and little improvement on it. Could not be got for a less sum for five miles around Ypsilanti.

Mr. Wilson is on the way of selling this place - he has four hundred and eighty acres. His price is thirteen thousand dollars. But there is yet plenty of Government Land yet to be got at the distance of eighty or one hundred miles.

And now you will see in the map which I send you the District of Huron attached to Michigan and is now set off into a Territory by itself and called Wisconsin and is beginning to settle. There is water carriage from Detroit all the way to it. And when you come out we will ALL go and buy half of the Territory and govern a Scotch settlement.

I have let the clearing of eighty acres on my lot, the cost is ninety two dollars. It is to be finished by the first of September and I intend to put into it wheat as I expect it will be the last crop on this farm as he is determined to sell and go to Illinois. When I bought my land it looked a solitary place in the heart of the woods. Now there is a house on every lot round it and a saw and grist mill and a store just put up two and a half miles from it. And a nearest neighbor to us is a Scotch man from Braeman. They say when the clearing is finished the lot will be worth six hundred and fifty dollars. That is a good advance in two years.

Our stock at present consists of four cows, two four year old oxen, one yearling heifer, eleven sheep and if luck is with us we will have four or more lambs. I have 12 acres of wheat which looks as though it would come on if the weather helps.

We all like this country very well now that have begun to to make acquaintances and get used to the ways of the country. The impression of old customs begins to wear off and there is nothing wanting on the part of living to make us comfortable. We are all clothed with the wool from our own sheep. This winter eight hogs will be coming on for next years port and what more could any reasonable man wish for?

Give our respects to all our friends and wellwishers and tell our friend James Campbell if he has any thoughts of coming to this country it would be a great benefit to him to send one of his sons out one year before him to see the ways of the country and he would be a great benefit to the

family on their coming out.

May all goodness attend you and your family and warm friends,

Robert Gairdner

The money I had from you I am very sorry is out of my power at present to send it. I did not know of James going home before I let the clearing(?). I tried him if he would settle with you and the money would be ready on his return but he said it was uncertain whether there would be any money or not to spare. If you don't think of coming send me word and I will put the money with investment in New York one year from this date and you can draw in Kilmarbock as you shall see by the newspapers.

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YPSILANTI HISTORY BEGINS IN GODFROY TRADING POST by Louis S. White - "Ypsilanti Press" article June 30, 1936

French Claim No.690 was deeded to Gabriel Godfroy by the U.S. Government, July 3, 1812, and as described, contained 562 acres. Claim No.680 was deeded to the children of Gabriel Godfroy, and contained 566.95 acres.

It might be interesting to learn something of the Godfroy family, who they were and where they came from.

James Godfroy de Mauboeuf, the progenitor of the family in America, was born in the parish of St. Martin de Cantilan, a suburb of Rouen, diocese of Rouen, France, in 1653, a son of John and Collette (Danlerville) Godfroy. He came to Three Rivers, Canada, where, about 1714, he married Mary St. Onge dit Chene. In partnership with Paul Chevalier and Joseph Senecat in 1710, he began trading with Detroit and in 1719-20, moved his family there. Gabriel James Godfroy, grandson of the above and son of James Godfroy and Louisa Clotilda Chapotan, was born in Detroit, November 10, 1758. He was buried at Detroit Sept. 2, 1833. This man was the operator of "Godfroy's Trading Post" at Ypsilanti. It is doubtful if he actually lived here, as all his children, the last of whom was born in 1812, were born at Detroit.

Gabriel Godfroy was married three times; first to Mary Catherine Contoure, Jan.8, 1781, second to Mary Tresa Bondy, Feb. 14, 1795, and third to Monica Campan, Jan.14, 1817. He had fifteen children, five by his first wife and ten by his second.

Inasmuch as possibly thirteen of his fifteen children might have been those meant as "the children of Gabriel Godfroy" and known as the owners of French Claim No.680, their names and dates of birth might be interesting. In order of birth

they were: Gabriel, born July 3, 1783 married Elizabeth May and died in 1848; Archange, born March 14 1786, married Joseph Bondy and was buried May 1, 1823; Catherine, born March 12, 1789, married Joseph Boyer, Aug. 29, 1810, and was buried Nov. 30, 1811; John Baptist, born March 29, 1792, married first, Teresa Bondy, July 25, 1820, and second Genevava Cosme, and was buried Jan 5, 1828; Susanne, born Nov. 12, 1795, married James McCoskey Sept 11, 1815; Peter, born June 15, 1797, married Mary Ann Godet dit Marentitte Nov. 20, 1822 and died May 23, 1848; Ann, born Sept. 8, 1800, married John Visger May 25, 1819; James, born June 29, 1802 married Victoria Navarre, Sept. 20, 1823; Mary Joseph born Dec. 13, 1803, married John Smythe at Lexington, Kentucky; Sophia, born May 15, 1806, married James Whipple, Jan 8, 1828, and died in 1841; Richard Bertrand, born June 25, 1808, married Ann Lewis, Aug. 20, 1832; Teresa Zoe, born Feb. 28, 1810, married Ephraim B.P. Abbott in 1832 and died in 1851; Alexander, born Oct. 31, 1812 and buried Sept. 10 1832.

The other two children, Angelica, born 1781, died 1808, and Francis, born 1793 and died 1800, had passed on before the date of the deed to Claim No 680 which was in 1811.

Many of these names appear in abstracts for property in both these claims. They are spelled many different ways. The writer would like to list the different names appearing in abstracts as a check on the above list and will appreciate advice from present owners, not only in French Claims Nos. 680 and 690 but in Nos. 681 and 691 as well.

In Connection with the subject of the original land owners and early settlers in general, it might be noted that there has been a woeful lack of perpetuating their names. In these days of new subdivisions, modernized county roads and super-highways, there is a wonderful opportunity to honor the memories of the men who came in by ox cart, Indian trails or river rafts, cleared the land for us and made our tasks so simple.

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Louis S. White (1887-1963) was Ypsilanti's first City Historian.

If you have an abstract for your property and don't know what to do with it, give it to the Ypsilanti Historical Archives, 220 N. Washington.

Word comes from our oldest Historical Society member, Jay J. Seaver who now lives in Green Valley, Arizona.

Jay writes:

I was interested in your last "Ypsilanti Gleanings" covering the old Ypsilanti cyclone April 12 1893. My father had a milk route in Ypsilanti at that time. I was nine years old and had to go with him to deliver milk the morning of April 13 after the cyclone. We saw many delapidated buildings and had a time getting to our customers.

The cyclone went from West to East out Cross Street to 'dead end' where my Uncle lived. Fred Coleman was in the privy at the time, hung on to the door handle which landed with him in an apple tree. Not badly hurt".

Recently Jay was profiled in the "Green Valley News". He was born January 6 1885 on his grand-father's farm four miles south of Ypsilanti and was a farm boy until he went away to the University of Michigan. He graduated from Ypsilanti High School, the Michigan State Normal College and received his Mechanical Engineering degree in 1912 from the University of Michigan. Forty-four years of Engineering, many of which were in his own business in Chicago, the J.J. Seaver Engineering Company.

He designed an open hearth furnace and became concerned with pollution; "Before the word was ever known, I was making speeches about the pollution of our air and water. People didn't know the meaning of the word".

He carries a cane when he walks - carries it, not to lean on, just as he easily carries his near century years.

"At ninety-five years you're a different animal. You get off the track sometimes". He is putting together his memoirs, and has promised a copy for our Archives.

NEWS FROM THE MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES

The 'Ypsilanti Yesterday Heritage Festival' of August 1980 is now past history and pleasant memories.

Although the Museum was not on the official House Tour this year we had about 2000 people visit our building.

As usual, Ethel O'Connor, our Guide Chairman, did a splendid job scheduling guides for extra hours and she deserves especial thanks for the calls she made and the time she spent recruiting guides.

We are very fortunate in having such a good group of willing and faithful volunteers. For the 'Festival' days they were:-

Friday, August 22: Miriam Peters, Frances Warren, Grace Spratt, Ruth Duey, Lynda Hahlbrock, Peg Fitzharris, Ada Holmes, Bonnie Osborn, Dorothy Kellas, Margaret Wheeler, Leslie Feret, Eileen Harrison, Doris Milliman, Dorothy Disbrow and Foster Fletcher.

Saturday, August 23:- Esther Ensign, Frances Warren, Ethel O'Connor, Louise Pate, Mary Warner, Dave Gauntlett, Phoebe Miller, Foster Fletcher, Doreen Binder, Lucille Langworthy, Rene Moran, Susie Woods, Jeanne Jordan, Dottie Disbrow, Ann McCarthy and Marge Gauntlett.

Sunday, August 24:- Drew Gilbert, Vaunee Gilbert, Rene Moran, Mary Pappas, Dave McGaffin, Wm. McCarthy, Frank Burgess, Rene Burgess, Irving Dixon, Harriet Stewart, Alan Stewart, Disanne Trevarrow and Ethel O'Connor.

One of the most popular and best selling items we have at our sales case are the clothes pin dolls made by Eileen Harrison. Eileen made fifty dolls to sell during the 'Festival' days - and they sold with lightning-like speed. These dolls are becoming 'collector items'. Thank you, Eileen.

During the 'Festival' we had guests from all over this section of the State as well as guests from fifteen other States; from as far west as California and as far east as New Jersey. We also had visitors from five foreign countries: Austria, Germany, Mexico, Norway and Panama.

This year the Society sponsored the 'professional dealer' Antique Sale at the old High School. Bill Edmunds and Sherril Reeves were co-chairman of this project. Society members on that committee were: Kathryn and LaVern Howard, Grace and Herbert Cornish, Ann McCarthy, Doris Milliman, Dottie Disbrow and Ron Miller. Among their other duties

Kathryn and LaVern and Grace and Herbert took charge of our sales booth. There was a great deal of work to prepare for this affair. Sherril, in particular, deserves so much credit for making it a success for it was she who contacted dealers and did much of the tedious paper work.

A letter was sent to our local membership asking that they support our Sale by purchasing advance tickets. Our membership response was splendid - and we thank you!

The whole affair was a great success for the Society and a complete financial report will be given at a later date.

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Before and during the 'Festival' the display at the Museum was that of the beautiful and unusual fan collection loaned by Grace Cornish. Through the middle of October the display is that of the interesting collection of old and rare bells belonging to Lucy Tidswell. During October and November we will have Doug Kelly's display of political buttons, election signs, etc.

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Lloyd M. Shoemaker, of Dearborn, has sent the Ypsilanti Historical Society a \$100.00 check as a memorial for Frederick B. Cleveringa.

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On September 12th, Governor Millikin came to the General Motors complex to dedicate the Willow Run Bomber plant as as State of Michigan Historical site.

Albert Kahn was the Architect for the building which was built by the Ford Motor Company on land owned by Henry Ford.

Ann McCarthy, Historical Society President and Foster Fletcher were in attendaNce for this historic occasion which was hosted very graciously by the General Motors Hudra-matic staff.

A CORDIAL WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

LEWIS, Horatio B., II
600 Covington Road
Birmingham, Mich. 48010

McELYA, Mitchel R., Mr. & Mrs.
708 Congress
Ypsi.

MARTIN, Donald W.
17401 Plaza Ontonal
San Diego, Calif. 92128

MILLER, Louise
1378 Stamford
Ypsi

SCHEBE, Marian, Mrs.
1324 AIA Highway
The Dunes Apt #504
Indianalantic, Florida 32903

SLUCTER, Kern G.
953 E. Michigan #25
Ypsi.

STADTMILLER, Bennett
71 North Clubview Drive.
Ypsi.

STADTMILLER, Gernard
P.O. Box 184
Palm Bay, Florida 32905

STADTMILLER, George
529 Fairview Circle
Ypsilanti

STAGER, Claudette
2931 Rountree B-#1
Ypsi.

TAFINA, Gary R.
23868 Kensington
Taylor, Mich. 48108

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RECENT ACQUISITIONS

J. Craig Biddle
Ypsilanti

Eileen Harrison
Ypsilanti

Lydia McDonald
Ypsilanti

Bill Siemers
Ypsilanti

Mr. & Mrs. Fred Peters
Ypsilanti

Mrs. Jennibelle Davis
Ypsilanti

6 Photographs of the scene of
the 1934 Steicher murders.

Newspaper clippings of 1931
'torch' murders.

Research paper for History
course at E.M.U. - 'Historical
Events Leading Up to the
Formation of the Historical
District and Commission'

Sketch of house at 95 Oakwood-
copy of adv. for 'Ypsilanti
Mineral Baths'

Underwood typewriter-circa 1930

Curtain stretchers- White
cotton wedding dress worn by
Bessie Stark at her marriage
to Milfred Stark 8/14/1913.

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

Unknown	"Hillcrest" 1923
Maxe A. Obermeyer, Jr. Ypsilanti	Three reproduced Ypsilanti postals- 1 Old Cleary Business School, "The Huron" (old hotel), "Ypsilanti Country Club"
Sandra Shapiro Detroit, Michigan	Research paper-"History of Parker Mill and Its Environs for Washtenaw County Historic District Commission".
Mrs Beulah Hankinson Foster Ypsilanti	Three diplomas (1896) for Kate O. Arnold (Mrs Foster's mother) from University of Michigan. Framed hair decoration with notation "Hair of Florence S. Babbitt" made by J.J. Ormond, Chicago 1887. Two cream and green pottery candy dishes.
Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Dusbiber Ypsilanti	Ceiling lamp - old - found in closet of Adams school. Small white plate "Prospect School" Advertising card- 'Ypsilanti Feb. 14th 1898" Wedding dress, hand made by Anna Otto (1865-1915) for her marriage to Wm. Dusbiber in Emmanuel Lutheran Church, August 4 1884. Postal- 'View in Prospect Park'.
Mrs. Albert Walton Ypsilanti	Small booklet-'Map of Ypsilanti' 1917
Ray Vorce Ypsilanti	Small brochure-undated - 'Consumption-How to Avoid It' issued by 'Ypsilanti Anti-Tuberculosis Society'-found at auction in Centerville, Michigan.
Mrs. Anna Anderson Ypsilanti	Beautiful hand-tatted table cloth. Old flat iron.
Maxe A. Obermeyer, Jr. Ypsilanti	AMERICAN FLAG - 48 stars - found in old house belonging to Obermeyer Realty Co.
Ypsilanti Credit Bureau (Peter B. Fletcher)	CITY DIRECTORIES for 1975 and 1976.
Jack Harris Ypsilanti	Green glass quart bottle of "Paragon" (Ypsilanti Mineral Water) about half full. Found at home at 510 Pearl -home of Miss Ada Norton from 1885-1939.

Acquisitions (continued)

Martin Opem Ypsilanti	Medieval pike staff and helmet- outdated checkbook from National Bank of Ypsilanti
Mrs. George Bird Ypsilanti	YPSILANTI HERITAGE ENGAGEMENT CALENDARS 1976-1981 inclusive Folders from 1980 Aug. 24th House Tour
Foster L. Fletcher Ypsilanti	Five postals of Michigan scenes for Archives postcard collection.
Mrs. Frank Burgess Ypsilanti	Original carbon of letter of February 19, 1936 to S. Arnold Wiard, Police Commissioner from H.C. Holmes, City Clerk, stating a petition, passed by City Council - giving petition and the Council recommendation on hiring blacks as policemen in the City of Ypsilanti "when vacancy occurs".
Mrs. W.J. Heider Ypsilanti	A rare Ypsilanti postcard - "Swergel's Store-"The Normal Bookstore".
Uldeen Daniel Canton, Michigan	Baby's christening dress-with hand-tatted bodice-circa 1900.
Mr. & Mrs. Edmund Block Ypsilanti	Tin can of "Karo" - old
Mr. & Mrs. Albert Schrader (formerly of Ypsilanti)	Tin can of tobacco-"Peachey Double Cut" - Map-side 1-Comm- ercial and railroad map of U.S., side two-1928 Highway map of U.S. Water color reproduction from original in the Franklin De- kleine Co. collection-"Michigan State Normal College, Ypsilanti" Large folder- "Patrick McNiff's Plan of the Settlement of Detroit 1796" reproduced in collotype facsimile from the Original Mms. in Clements Lib-with notes by F. Clever Bald".
Unknown	Metal instrument for punching hole in pig's nose for the insertion of a ring.

RECENT ACQUISITIONS-continued

Mrs. Joseph Thompson Ypsilanti	Newspaper clippings from "Press" 12/10/1972 about house at 206 S.Washington-home of the late Dr. & Mrs. Bradley M.Harris.
Mrs. James Breakey (through Mrs.J.J.Woods)	Picture of Washtenaw's first Court House. Given to the late Judge Breakey sometime ago by Herbert R.Bartlett from his collection.
Edward Smith Ypsilanti Police Dept.	Old business postals- 1 from Michigan Central R.R. 1885, 1 from coaldealer in Detroit 1892 and 1 a dues reminder 1886 from Huron Lodge #241, K. of H.
Mrs.Ray Sugars (nee Florence Carlton) 346633 Elm Street Wayne, Mich.	Large framed photograph of past worthy Matrons of Eastern Star-some identified.
George May Douglas, Mich.	Book MOON OVER WILLOW RUN by Dan Patch-a former Ypsi. Police Chief.
Alan Stewart Ypsilanti	Three wooden nickels-used f or advertising purposes.
Charles Bohn Ypsilanti	Four City Directories, Ann Arbor 1955, Ypsilanti 1955, and 1942 and 1928. A HISTORY OF KIWANIS IN MICHIGAN by Clarence M. Loesell 1956, PSILANTIAN 1968

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And a cordial welcome to another new member -

Elmer Senff
35386 Ave. E.
Yucaipa, California 92399

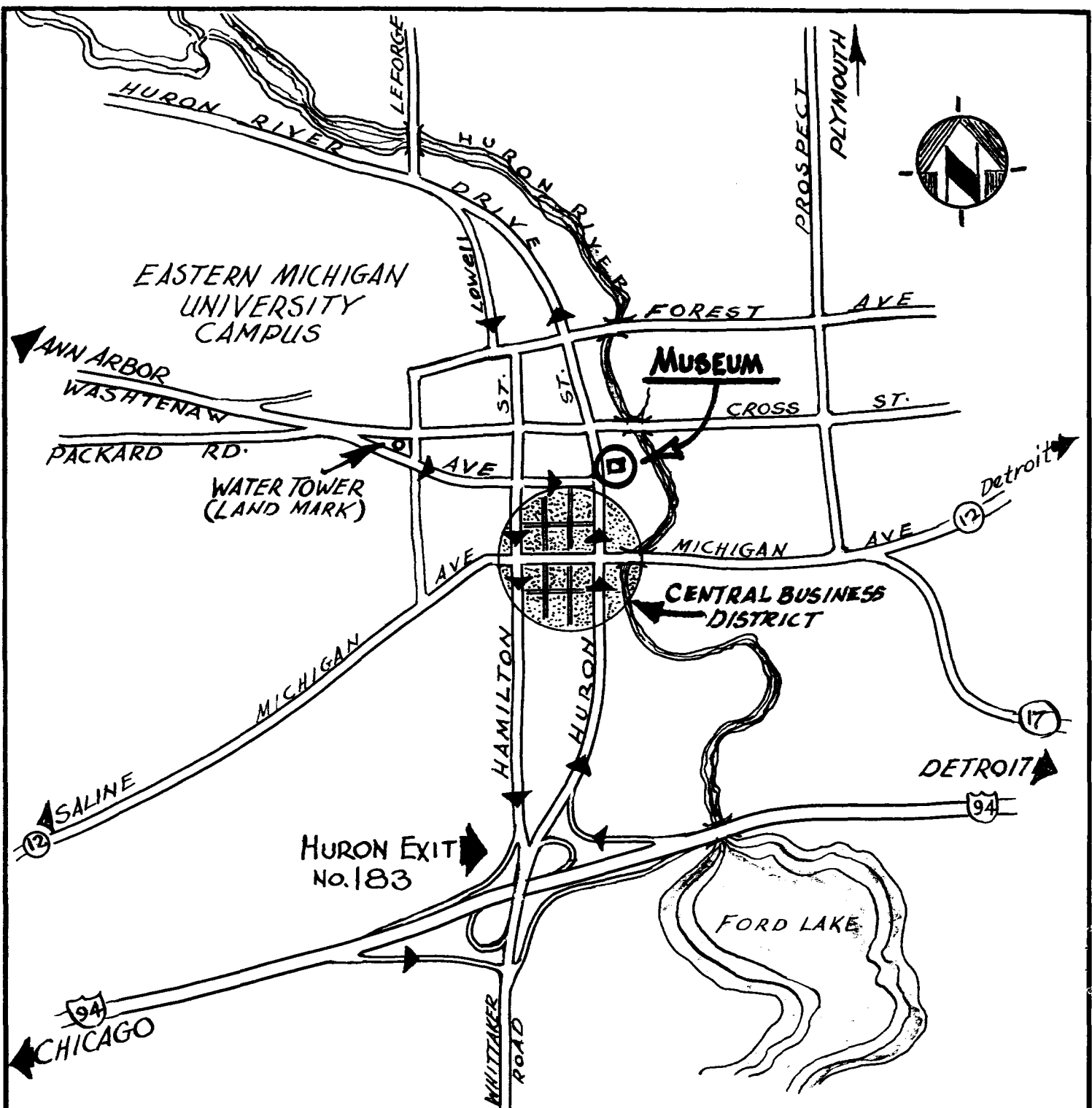
A valuable member of the museum staff is retiring from her position as City Archivist, part-time Director, Secretary of the Museum Board and Secretary of the Administration Committee.

Dorothy Disbrow is retiring as of October 1st, so that she may enjoy some traveling with her husband, Don.

Dottie has been with the Museum for many years and has been a great help with its expansion and its place in the cultural community of the city. She has been a knowledgeable guide , a speaker for many groups and the one to whom many questions are asked and answered. All this besides her other duties. She has always been willing to cheerfully go "beyond the call of duty" when ever asked.

Dottie will be missed by all of us, but we wish her well in her retirement and hope that she comes back to visit often.

Doris Milliman, Chairman
Administration Committee



Upsilon Historical Museum
 220 North Huron Street ~ Upsilon-Michigan
 Zip Code 48197 Phone (313) 482-4990
 Foster Fletcher ~ Historian ~ Museum Hours ~
 Dorothy Disbrow ~ Archivist Fri. Sat. & Sun. 2-4 PM.
 Archives ~ By Appointment